

Ottawa St. Business Improvement Area
Board of Directors Meeting

MINUTES

Date: August 2, 2023

Location: Virtual meeting through Zoom

Present: Ettore Bonato, Mike Osborne, Lawrence Holland, Mark Trudell, Syx Langemann

Regrets: Constable Andie Suthers, Tracy Paterson, Byron Griffith

Guest Speakers:

- None

Absent: Mark McKenzie

Recorder: Ettore Bonato

Meeting Called to Order: 7:08PM

Approval of Agenda:

- Mike Osborne, 2nd Mark Trudell, CARRIED

Disclosure of Interest:

- None

Adoption of Past Minutes:

- July meeting
- Mike Osborne, 2nd Mark Trudell, CARRIED

Coordinators Report:

- Everything is ready to go for the annual tent sale & Pride event
- All posters have been handed out to hang on merchant's windows
- Road closure for August 12 is set; the signs and barricades have been ordered
- Stage, tent and chairs have been ordered
- Decorations have been ordered and delivered
- Security in place
- The Pride crosswalk will be painted at the same time
- No to lit sign at Ottawa & Howard; too expensive

Council Report:

- Not present
- ACTION ITEM: remove barrels from Ottawa Street before Pride parade; UPDATE: it has been taken care of
- ACTION ITEM: bring social workers accompanied by police to approach the homeless to see if anything can be done
- ACTION ITEM: look into extending lights at crosswalks crossing Ottawa Street

Treasurer's Report:

- Things are up to date
- Credit card has come in handy on paying for a few things over the phone
- Final payment from the government for alley lighting has been deposited in BIA account
- Alley lighting has been paid for; to the City of Windsor
- We are ready to pay for August 12 road closure
- The BIA has just over \$36,000 in the bank

Safety & Crime Prevention Committee Report:

- Unfortunately Constable Suthers could not attend the meeting; working
- Need to improve police presence on Ottawa Street
- Extra police confirmed to Pride festival weekend

Communications:

- Map for expansion still being worked on
- All permits are in hand for August 12
- Insurance for August 12 road closure is in hand
- Renewal of overall insurance has been completed
- City of Windsor events co-ordinator will be on hand for our event; City will be checking up on everything the day of our event
- Windsor Police confirmed security and police presence for our event for the full day

Chairperson's Report:

- Finding market vendors a challenge; UPDATE: we have 19 for August 12
- Social media advertising has been started and boosted
- Extra security has been confirmed
- UPDATE: the Tent Sale & Pride Event weekend went well; very positive response
- Lots of foot traffic
- Vendors were very happy with the day's outcome; many want to come back next year
- Questioning everyone possible on what can be done better; a few really good ideas such as using both side of the street for vendors, emergency route in the centre of the road; inviting some buskers; more painting on the street; mural being painted during event; more media coverage; bigger fashion show
- Everyone loved the Pride crosswalk painting
- Alley lighting project complete and paid for

New Business:

- The board has to reassess the tree lighting project. Costs seems endless, especially due to lights not working or damaged
- We need to be diligent during Pride weekend; be mindful of vandalism; UPDATE: all went well with no problems
- It was voted to start putting money aside for new banners; right angle triangle type banners suggested, larger in size. \$10,000 this year, \$10,000 next year; CARRIED
- City wide mural project will be taking place in October run by Denial, the BIA contribution of \$5,000 has been paid; we will get 5 walls done to this amount.
- Shane is looking for a blank wall to paint in our BIA; he will be entitled to the \$1,000 reimbursement
- Denial is painting a mural on the side of K&M Convenience; he is entitled to reimbursement also

Next Meeting

- To take place virtually via Zoom
- Future meetings: all on first Wednesday of every month
- September 6 @ 7:00PM
- October 11 @ 7:00PM
- AGM, November 1 @ 7:00PM – doors open 6:30PM, location to be determined
- December 6 @ 7:00PM

Adjournment:

- Motion to adjourn, Mark Trudell, 2nd Michael Osborne
- Time adjourned 7:48PM